Mr. A. N. Satyanesan (*Nominated*) : [illegible]

Mr. N. Ramakrishna Pillai : I claim notice.

Malayalam Jaffna tobacco Society, Ltd., Quilon.

34. ***Mr. Paul A. Thaliath** : Will the Government be pleased to state : (*a*) whether it is a fact that only the Malayalam Jaffna Tobacco Society, Ltd., Quilon, is given permit in the whole State to import Jaffna tobacco ; and

(*b*) Whether it is a fact that they alone have stock of the Jaffna tobacco in the whole State?

Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan (*Excise Commissioner*) :

(*a*) No.

(*b*) Yes.

Mr. Paul A. Thaliath : May I know why this society alone has got stocks of Jaffna tobacco in the State?

Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan : This society alone has got stocks of Jaffna tobacco because they alone have bought stocks from Ceylon and brought them down here.

Mr. Paul A. Thaliath : Is not the Government sponsoring the business?

Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan : Yes, Sir. By the Government of Ceylon.

President : I may mention that the Ceylon Government approached this Government on this matter. There was some trouble between the Sinhales and the non-Sinhalese, a thing that crops up in Ceylon frequently. The Jaffna people who are Tamilians said that the Ceylon Government were anxious to entrust the Jaffna tobacco business with the non-Tamilians who were Sinhalese. I then told the representative of the Government of Ceylon that this Government would not enter into this kind of conflict, but if the Ceylon Government would take the responsibility for starting an organised body on a co-operative basis in which Jaffna and Sinhalese people were also represented, this Government would deal with this body rather than with individual contractors. I believe that this body was brought into existence by the Ceylon Government as a result of the expression of opinion by this Government to the representative of the Ceylon Government.

Licensed tobacco dealers in Quilon.

35. ***Mr. Paul A. Thaliath** : Will the Government be pleased to state the names of the wholesale licensed tobacco dealers in Quilon, who are importing Jaffna tobacco?

Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan : Under the tobacco Rules, wholesale licensed dealers are not authorised to import Jaffna tobacco. *Only mellabhom licensees can import Jaffna tobacco.*

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